

MEMO

DATE: October 13, 2005

TO: Regional Comprehensive Plan Task Force

FROM: Alan Thompson, Senior Planner (213) 236-1940 thompson@scag.ca.gov

SUBJECT: Regional Comprehensive Plan, Security and Disaster Preparedness Chapter

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommendation is the Regional Comprehensive Plan Task Force (RCP TF) report to the Transportation and Communications Committee on the following approach to the development of the Security and Disaster Preparedness Chapter.

BACKGROUND:

REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN - DRAFT SECURITY and DISASTER RESPONSE CHAPTER SCOPE OF WORK

1. PURPOSE

The September 11, 2001 attacks and the more recent hurricanes to hit the Gulf Coast illustrate the tremendous challenges that metropolitan areas and urban regions face in preparing and responding to terrorist incidents or natural disasters. No significant event is truly local, as political boundaries are permeable and local critical infrastructure may serve the entire Region. The unexpected nature of such events requires extensive coordination and collaboration among all the agencies and organizations involved.

The purpose of the Security and Disaster Preparedness Chapter is to examine existing government roles, responsibilities and interactions in the preparedness and response to terrorist threats and natural or man-made disasters in the SCAG region, determine if and where shortfalls exist, and provide potential recommendations to all levels of government to enhance preparedness and response coordination.

2. CHAPTER SCOPE of WORK

The chapter will describe the overall roles of SCAG cities and counties in terms of security and disaster readiness, as well as provide an overview of state and federal roles. It will describe interactions between all levels of government when an incident and the required response cross political boundaries.

The chapter will identify needs in the current system, if applicable, and determine what role, if any, SCAG and/or other local/regional organizations could play in resolving needs or adding benefit to the current security/disaster preparedness programs. Recommendations, where applicable, will be made for federal, state, regional, county and local jurisdictions.

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3. ACTIVITIES

- a) Interview county emergency management bureaus:
 - a. Determine roles, responsibilities and intergovernmental coordination for:
 - i. Local incidents
 - ii. Local incidents crossing municipal boundaries
 - iii. Incidents crossing county boundaries
 - iv. Incidents of State significance
 - v. Incidents of national significance
 - b. Determine roles, responsibilities and coordination for security.
 - c. Determine cities, townships and other political bodies that are participants.
- b) Interview state and federal emergency management agencies
- c) Develop needs analysis:
 - a. Deficiencies (if any) in government roles and responsibilities in preparedness and response.
 - b. Determine areas where response process can potentially be accelerated.
 - c. Workshop (if required)
 - i. Review Needs Analysis
 - ii. Develop recommendations
 - 1. Develop potential policy recommendations
 - 2. Determine appropriate areas of responsibilities.
- d) Draft Chapter
 - a. Present recommendations to RCP
- e) Final Chapter